

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. Claims 2-11, 13-24, 26 and 27 have been withdrawn by the Examiner. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5, 7, 25, 26 and 27 are amended. Claims 5, 7, 26 and 27 are amended to allow for rejoinder of the claims upon allowance of the non-withdrawn claims. Support for the amendment to claims 1 and 25 can be found, for example, in the specification on page 24, last paragraph, to page 25, first paragraph. No new matter is added.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives during the October 16, 2006 personal interview. The points discussed during the personal interview are incorporated into the following remarks and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

**I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1, 12, 25 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,115,709 to Gilmour et al. ("Gilmour"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites a document computer executable management part that "identifies an operator as the optimum operator for an assigned task based on the job features." At least this feature is not disclosed by Gilmour. Gilmour teaches a method wherein the knowledge of an e-mail user is assessed by searching key terms within the e-mail messages. The knowledge profile can be viewed by others in a "private" or a "public" portion of the user's knowledge profile. However, Gilmour does not teach a method of identifying an operator "as the optimum operator for an assigned task based on the job features," as recited in claim 1.

Claims 12 and 28 depend from 1, which is in condition for allowance. For the reasons set forth above, claims 12 and 28 are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons, as well as for the features recited therein.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

**II. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Klifton L. Kime  
Registration No. 42,733

JAO:KLK/lmf

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**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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